

# REPORT OF STATE SUPERVISOR OF OIL INSPEC- TION TO STATE GEOLOGIST.

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OFFICE OF STATE SUPERVISOR OF OIL INSPECTION, }  
INDIANAPOLIS, IND., NOV., 1891. }

*To Hon. S. S. Gorby, State Geologist of Indiana :*

SIR—In conformity with the provisions of the law relating to the inspection of illuminating oils, I have the honor to present a detailed report of the transactions of this department for the period commencing March 2, 1891, to and including October 31, 1891.

Respectfully,

N. J. HYDE,  
*State Supervisor of Oil Inspection.*

## REPORT OF THE STATE SUPERVISOR OF OIL INSPECTION.

On the 2d day of March, after having complied with all the requirements of the law, I assumed the duties of State Supervisor of Oil Inspection, with the gentlemen named below as my deputies.

You will perceive by one of the tables included in this report that there has been inspected 106,491 barrels of oil. Of this number 105,263 barrels were approved and 1,228 barrels rejected. None of the rejected oil was positively dangerous nor explosive for illuminating purposes, but it would not pass the standard test required by our State laws. Nearly if not all the same oil was of sufficient high grade to pass inspection in all other States having inspection laws, and inspection laws are in force in thirty or more States of the Union.

The following is a list of the Deputy Supervisors appointed in the several Congressional Districts of the State and at outside shipping points:

### *List of Deputies, with Postoffice Address and Date of Appointment.*

NAME.	POSTOFFICE ADDRESS	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.
First District, Harry Hedden. . . .	Evansville. . . .	March 10, 1891.
Second District, W. B. Purcell. . . .	Vincennes. . . .	March 10, 1891.
Third District, Nicholas Ruppert. . . .	New Albany. . . .	March 16, 1891.
Fourth District, Peter Klein. . . .	Madison. . . .	March 2, 1891.
Sixth District, Joe J. Gorrell*. . . .	Winchester. . . .	March 5, 1891.
Sixth District, W. K. Young. . . .	Richmond. . . .	August 12, 1891.
Sixth District, Walter Davis. . . .	Muncie. . . .	March 3, 1891.
Seventh District, Michael Ginz. . . .	Indianapolis. . . .	March 2, 1891.
Eighth District, Henry Miller. . . .	Terre Haute. . . .	March 2, 1891.
Ninth District, W. A. Byers. . . .	Lafayette. . . .	March 2, 1891.
Tenth District, John Day. . . .	Logansport. . . .	March 9, 1891.
Eleventh District, John R. Porter. . . .	Peru. . . .	March 3, 1891.
Twelfth District, Louis Hazzard. . . .	Fort Wayne. . . .	March 2, 1891.
Thirteenth District, Charles L. Goetz. . . .	South Bend. . . .	March 2, 1891.
J. L. Rhinock. . . .	Cincinnati, O. . . .	March 2, 1891.
F. W. Green. . . .	Cleveland, O. . . .	
Jacob Kohn. . . .	Toledo. . . .	March 17, 1891.
B. D. Kauffman. . . .	Lima, O. . . .	March 21, 1891.
C. C. Dorrem. . . .	Mansfield, O. . . .	

\* Resigned. W. K. Young appointed.

A printed copy of the following rules was mailed to each Deputy, with instructions to observe them strictly in every case, so far as practicable:

OFFICE OF STATE SUPERVISOR OF  
OIL INSPECTION FOR STATE OF INDIANA,  
INDIANAPOLIS, March 2, 1891. }

*To Deputy Supervisors of Oil Inspection for Indiana:*

The law for inspection of mineral or petroleum oils in force September 19, 1881, requires the State Supervisor of Oil Inspection to prepare rules and regulations for the direction of Deputy Supervisors. In pursuance of the authority, I call your attention to the following directions which you will please observe in the discharge of your official duties:

1. Your especial and careful attention is called to the act under which your appointments have been made (Revised Statutes of Indiana, 1881), with a view to your instruction upon many points, not necessary to be referred to in this circular.

2. The process for testing oils is fully explained in the first and last sections of the law, and your first duty is to thoroughly familiarize yourself with those sections.

3. The standard test for all illuminating oils in Indiana is the gravity test of Beaume's hydrometer not below 46 degrees or higher than 50 degrees; that said oils shall bear a flash test not below 120 degrees Fahrenheit, and a fire test not below 140 degrees Fahrenheit.

4. The Deputies must keep a record of each inspection in a book, noting the gravity flash and fire test. In testing from tanks the greatest care should be taken in seeing that the same oil tested goes into the barrels before branding. The safest way is to take samples from several barrels after being filled, mix together, and test from that.

5. The brands for "approval" and "rejection" and all books and blanks used for the purpose will be furnished from this office, at the expense of the Deputy, none others than those furnished from this office must be used.

6. Deputies will, under no circumstances allow their brands to be used by others, but will brand the barrels themselves or have it done under their personal supervision.

7. The brand impression will be, ordinarily, placed upon the gauge end of the barrel; but when other marks interfere, then wherever practicable, but always where it can be plainly seen.

8. Each Deputy is required to make his report promptly upon the first day of every month with blanks furnished from this office, and they must correspond with his books on all inspections,

9. The fees are as follows, as allowed by law, and are collectable upon approval or rejection of each consignment of oil inspected :

Forty (40) cents per barrel where the number does not exceed two; where the number exceeds two and does not exceed ten, fees as above on the first two and 20 cents on each additional barrel; where the number exceeds ten and does not exceed forty-five, fees as above on first ten and 10 cents on each additional; where the number exceeds forty-five, fees as above on the first forty-five, and three cents on each additional barrel; fees accruing shall be a lien on the oil inspected.

10. The State Supervisor enjoins upon each Deputy a personal supervision relative to the enforcement of the law, and all violations thereof shall be promptly reported to the Prosecuting Attorney of the county in which the violation occurs, and the facts reported to this office.

11. For all points not covered by these instructions the Deputies will strictly examine the law, bearing in mind that only oils sold or manufactured for illuminating purposes for use within the State are subject to inspection.

12. Although not provided by law, it is exceedingly desirable that all accidents arising from the use of petroleum, and its products as an illuminating fluid, should be thoroughly investigated and the facts reported to this office.

13. In conclusion I desire to impress upon you an appreciation of the responsibility resting upon you officially; trusts are committed to you which should never be lost sight of. Human lives, as well as the safety of property, may depend on the issue of an inspection.

The law must be enforced impartially and honestly, without fear or favor.

N. J. HYDE,

*State Supervisor of Oil Inspection.*

On August 12 I appointed W. K. Young as deputy, at Richmond, in the place of Joe J. Gorrell, resigned.

The following table shows the number of barrels of illuminating oils inspected by myself and duputies, for the period commencing March 2, 1891, up to and including October 31, 1891, and also the points at which inspections were made :

*Table Showing Number of Barrels of Oil Inspected at the Several Points Named.*

	Approved.	Rejected.	Total.
Evansville . . . . .	7,328	. . . . .	7,328
Vincennes . . . . .	2,895	. . . . .	2,895
New Albany . . . . .	5,872	. . . . .	5,872
Madison . . . . .	1,234	. . . . .	1,234
Richmond . . . . .	2,344	18	2,362
Muncie . . . . .	1,520	. . . . .	1,520
Indianapolis . . . . .	29,759	1,210	30,967
Crawfordsville . . . . .	1,240	. . . . .	1,240
Columbus . . . . .	360	. . . . .	360
Terre Haute . . . . .	4,616	. . . . .	4,616
Lafayette . . . . .	5,180	. . . . .	5,180
Logansport . . . . .	4,463	. . . . .	4,463
Peru . . . . .	4,581	. . . . .	4,581
Fort Wayne . . . . .	6,427	. . . . .	6,427
South Bend . . . . .	10,762	. . . . .	10,762
Cincinnati . . . . .	4,635	. . . . .	4,635
Cleveland . . . . .	7,340	. . . . .	7,340
Toledo . . . . .	3,580	. . . . .	3,580
Lima . . . . .	383	. . . . .	383
Mansfield . . . . .	746	. . . . .	746
Total . . . . .	105,263	1,228	106,491

The following table shows the number of barrels inspected each month:

	Approved.	Rejected.	Total.
March . . . . .	10,558	730	11,288
April . . . . .	12,158	13	12,171
May . . . . .	8,709	5	8,714
June . . . . .	9,712	. . . . .	9,712
July . . . . .	10,575	120	10,695
August . . . . .	11,412	. . . . .	11,412
September . . . . .	19,334	. . . . .	19,334
October . . . . .	22,805	360	23,165
Total . . . . .	105,263	1,228	106,491

The following table shows the points at which the oil inspected was manufactured :

	No. of Barrels.
Cleveland, O. . . . .	55,255
Lima, O. . . . .	32,973
Toledo, O. . . . .	3,706
Findlay, O. . . . .	1,306
Pittsburgh, Pa. . . . .	2,095
Oil City, Pa. . . . .	6,302
Washington, Pa. . . . .	640
Warren, Pa. . . . .	210
Bear Creek, Pa. . . . .	1,620
Franklin, Pa. . . . .	484
Titusville, Pa. . . . .	90
Rens, Pa. . . . .	350
Oak Grove, Pa. . . . .	410
Allegheny City, Pa. . . . .	520
Parkersburgh, W. Va. . . . .	530
Total . . . . .	106,491

Below is given the number of barrels of oil shipped into Indiana from the different States in which refineries are located :

Manufactured in Ohio . . . . .	93,240
Manufactured in Pennsylvania . . . . .	12,721
Manufactured in West Virginia . . . . .	530
Total . . . . .	106,491

As my predecessor filed no report of inspection, I am not able to give the increase or decrease of number of barrels consumed in this report, but shall be able to do so in my next.

There have been a disposition on the part of several refiners to introduce into the State a class of oil that would not stand the test of our law, and it has required considerable vigilance on the part of myself and deputies to prevent it. But since they have been given to understand that all such illuminating oils would be promptly rejected as soon as offered for inspection, they have desisted.

Manufacturers and dealers generally, however, have cheerfully complied with the law, and those who do not fear fair and honorable competition have heartily co-operated with me in having the law impartially enforced.

There have been some few cases of erroneous construction of the law and unintentional violation of the same, but I have found no deliberate violations of the law, and it affords me pleasure to say that I have every reason to believe that the law is being enforced impartially and honestly.

Respectfully submitted,

N. J. HYDE,

*State Supervisor of Oil Inspection.*